THE DISSEMINATOR

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

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THE DISSEMINATOR is an electronic newsletter produced by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. It is distributed to the staffs of Provincial Library, the regional public libraries, and Education Media Services. It is also distributed to Nova Scotia government libraries, college libraries, academic libraries, and other interested individuals. To add a name to the mailing list, send a message to sdirani@nshpl.library.ns.ca.

Please distribute this to staff and boards.

T H E D I S S E M I N A T O R 1.17

October 7, 1994

MULTILINGUAL BIBLIOSERVICE UPDATE

The National Library recently released a draft contract between itself and other Canadian libraries (such as Provincial Library) which are interested in receiving donations from their MBS collections. From our perspective, the contract appears to be satisfactory and we look forward to receiving several thousand titles later this year. As well, the regional libraries will meet in October to discuss a possible consortium to negotiate a contract with a supplier to refresh their MBS collections on an ongoing basis.

FUTURE GROUP

The Future of Library and Information Sciences Organizations group met on Tuesday October 4 at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia. During the meeting, Carmen Carroll, Provincial Archivist, gave an update on the activities of the ALARM group which brings together librarians, archivists, and records managers. As well, Dan Pittman explained how the Association of Records Managers and Administrators has become an information provider on the Chebucto FreeNet. He recommended the FreeNet as an excellent way for any organization to get information out to the community in an electronic format . He commended the Halifax City Regional Library for having a public access terminal available for anyone wishing to connect to the FreeNet. Finally, Marion Pape passed on information concerning Information Rights Week, planned for April 3-10 1995. A committee is currently being formed so that information, materials and media coverage will be coordinated for this event.

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FREENET DEMO HELD FOR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

David Trueman of Dalhousie University recently gave a demonstration of the Chebucto FreeNet to Department of Education staff in hopes of securing the Department as an information provider to the FreeNet. Provincial Library is also examining ways that it can become a FreeNet information provider.

NCOMPASS SEARCHING NOW EASIER

Some time ago, Provincial Library encountered a temporary problem with the RS6000 system and we were consequently required to change the telnet port number for accessing NcompasS from the default port number 23 to 4375. The problem has been resolved and you can once again use the default port number 23.

WHAT'S HIP IN PARIS AND MILAN?

Rumour has it that Christian Dior is green with envy. Yes, the Summer Reading Programme sweatshirts and T-shirts have been spotted on the famous runways of Europe. We have just one sweatshirt remaining from the successful Summer Reading Programme and if you take advantage of this fabulous one-time offer it could be yours! Featuring the attractive "Whale of a Tale" logo, it is a size large (adult) and is available for the low, low price of $12.98. So e-mail us today and secure your position as a fashion trend-setter. To order, contact Judy Naugler (jnaugler).

PROFESSIONAL READING

In this issue, we are featuring two of our most recent books on the Internet and a short description of the State of Ohio's Long Range Program.

1) Riding the Internet Highway by Sharon Fisher, Steven Vaughan- Nichols and Rob Tidow. Indianapolis : New Riders Press, 1994. (Prof 384 .3 Fis) - In the introduction to this book, the authors state that their intention is not to produce an exhaustive and all inclusive guide to the Internet but to give the reader a basic introduction to the main features of the Internet, including e-mail, file transfer, usenet and various search tools. 381 pages in length, this book includes a floppy disk for practical use. It has an easy to follow format and includes examples of actual Internet sessions.

2) The Internet Unleashed. Indianapolis : SAMS Publishing, 1994. (Prof 384 .3 Int) - This is a much more detailed treatment of the Internet than Riding the Internet Highway. Touted as "Everything you need to master the Internet", this text is obviously intended for anyone who wants to go beyond the introductory books and explore the various aspects of the Internet in more detail.

3) Ohio Long-Range Program for the Improvement of Library Services 1995-1997. (Prof 021.00971 Sta) - This document is the latest addition to our growing collection of materials on strategic planning.

Consisting of three sections, the first part provides an overview of the long range program in Ohio; the second part identifies the goals and objectives for library development and improvement in Ohio over the next three years; and the third section contains information for the LSCA (The Library Services and Construction Act) grant process in Ohio and policies on the administration of LSCA funds. -- Frank Oram (foram).

"BOOK OF COUNTED SORROWS" - MYSTERY SOLVED

Fans of Dean Koontz are probably very familiar with this title. "Books in Print", however, is not. In fact, this tome from which Koontz often quotes in his novels is non-existent. Halifax City Regional Library reference staff and Provincial Library reference staff have had many requests in the past for this item which Koontz says he created to fill his own need for quotable poetic wisdom. Unaware of the consequences of quoting from a non-existent source, Koontz says that he receives thousands of letters a year from people (many of them librarians) inquiring about this title. Perhaps in an effort to appease frustrated librarians and patrons alike, he says that he hopes to actually publish his collection of "counted sorrows" in 1995. Thanks to Michael Colborne of Halifax City Regional Library for sending information from "The Dean Koontz Companion" and for suggesting this article.

NSLA CONFERENCE A HIT!

Staff members of Provincial Library recently attended the annual conference of the Nova Scotia Library Association in Yarmouth. Those attending reported unanimously that the conference was a success. With sessions all day Saturday and part of Sunday, there was plenty of opportunity for library workers of all levels to learn about new technology, develop techniques for hiring staff, and discover ways of handling stress among other things (such as learning the intricacies of line- dancing!). Kudos go to the staff of Western Counties Regional Library for hosting the conference and for making the weekend a memorable one.

PICTOU-ANTIGONISH BUYS ZOOMTEXT

With funding from the National Library and the Kinsmen Club of New Glasgow, the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library recently purchased Zoomtext-Plus. Zoomtext-Plus is software specifically designed to enhance computer use by the visually impaired. It enlarges the text, graphics and windows on the computer screen up to eight times their regular size. A new computer was purchased by the Town of New Glasgow to accommodate this new software which will benefit those more comfortable using a large-print format.

ALA GOPHER

The American Library Association has introduced the ALA Gopher in conjunction with the University of Illinois at Chicago. To access it, point your gopher to gopher.uic.edu (port 70). See the previous issue of THE DISS for instructions on pointing your gopher. Once connected, the ALA Gopher can be found

by selecting "The Library" and then "American Library Association". Included on the ALA gopher is a list of accredited library schools.

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That's it for this issue. Stay tuned . . . .

If you have any questions or comments about the activities mentioned, please contact the people involved. Readers are encouraged to comment on items found in THE DISSEMINATOR and/or make suggestions about content. These comments should be directed to Sue Dirani (sdirani).

Unless otherwise indicated, the "domain" for all e-mail addresses in this publication is: @nshpl.library.ns.ca. **********